

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An electronic measuring or control device for watering plants,

~~characterized by~~ comprising

at least one electronic moisture sensor (1, 1') based on a moisture-sensitive capacitor (5, 5') for measuring the moisture of the soil, having a dielectric (8) whose dielectric constant changes when moisture penetrates into it.

2. (Currently Amended) A measuring or control device according to claim 1, ~~characterized by~~ comprising a moisture-releasing and absorbing dielectric (8), especially in the form of a glass fiber mat.

3. (Currently Amended) A measuring or control device according to claim 1 ~~or 2~~, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the capacitor (5) of the moisture sensor has an outer tube-like capacitor terminal (6) and an inner capacitor terminal (7) of round cross section, between which the dielectric (8) is arranged accessible from outside to moisture.

4. (Currently Amended) A measuring or control device

according to claim 3, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the capacitor terminals (6, 7) are formed by a thin aluminum foil.

5. (Currently Amended) A measuring or control device according to claim 1 ~~or 2, characterized in that~~ wherein the capacitor (5') of the moisture sensor is implemented as a plate capacitor having two capacitor plates (6', 7') and a dielectric (8) arranged between them accessible to moisture.

6. (Currently Amended) A measuring or control device according to ~~any of claims 3 through 5, characterized in that~~ wherein the dielectric (8) is accessible to moisture via openings (4) in at least one of the capacitor terminals (6, 7; 6', 7').

7. (Currently Amended) A measuring or control device according to ~~any of the above claims 1, characterized in that~~ wherein the moisture sensor (1, 1'), for ease of insertion into a root ball of a plant, is provided with a sharpening (3).

8. (Currently Amended) A measuring or control device according to ~~any of the above claims 1, characterized in that~~ wherein the moisture-based signal of the moisture sensor (1, 1') can preferably be measured and evaluated by means of microprocessor-based electronics (14).

9. (Currently Amended) A measuring or control device according to claim 8, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein it is provided with an interface (17) for transmission of individual

plant-specific parameters, such as especially watering data, to the electronics (14), and/or for readout of statistical data, such as watering times.

10. (Currently Amended) A measuring or control device according to claim 8 ~~or 9, characterized in that~~ wherein a display (18, 19, 20) for visual representation of the measured values can be activated by means of the electronics (14) in accordance with the individual plant-specific parameters.

11. (Currently Amended) A measuring or control device according to claim 8 ~~and 10, characterized in that~~ wherein threshold values for the visualization of a watering need or cessation of watering can be set in the electronics (14) by means of a variable or fixed resistance circuit.

12. (Currently Amended) A measuring or control device according to ~~any of claims 8 through 11, characterized by~~ comprising a temperature sensor (35) for measuring the ambient temperature.

13. (Currently Amended) A measuring or control device according to ~~any of claims 8 through 12, characterized by~~ comprising an integrated watering valve (22) that can be activated by the electronics (14) for watering of the plant.

14. (Currently Amended) A measuring or control device according to claim 13, ~~characterized by~~ comprising a water

reservoir (25) for supplying the watering valve (22), the fill level of the water reservoir (25) being monitorable by the electronics (14) by means of a fill-level sensor (26).

15. (Currently Amended) A measuring or control device according to claim 8, ~~characterized by~~ comprising a liquid-fertilizer reservoir (32) and an integrated fertilizer valve (33) supplied by it that can be activated by the electronics (14) in parameterizable intervals.

16. (Currently Amended) A measuring or control device according to ~~any of the above claims 1,~~ characterized by comprising a pH sensor (34) for measuring the pH of the plant soil of the plant being monitored by the measuring and/or control device.

17. (Currently Amended) An electronic moisture sensor (1, 1') especially for use in a measuring or control device (12, 21) for watering of plants according to the characterizing portion of ~~one or more of~~ at least claims 1-~~through~~ 7.